

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 11544 051722Z

73

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 DRC-01

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R 051631Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4556

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, UK

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EC CAP FOR SOYBEANS

REF: DEPTTEL 194296

BEGIN SUMMARY. UK OFFICIALS ARE AGAINST A SOYBEAN CAP
WITH VARIABLE LEVIES. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 LONDON 11544 051722Z

1. AS PER REF. DEPTTEL, HIGH RANKING OFFICIALS OF HMG

WERE CONTACTED TO EXPRESS US CONCERN ABOUT PROPOSED EC SOYBEAN CAP. MAFF OFFICIALS CONTACTED INCLUDED SMITH, UNDER SECRETARY, EXTERNAL RELATIONS DIVISION; VICKERY AND ANDERSON, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, EXTERNAL RELATIONS DIVISION; RENSHAW, PRINCIPAL OF CEREALS DIVISION; GIBBINS, PRINCIPAL OF DEFENSE EMERGENCIES AND CROP IMPROVEMENT DIVISION. IN ADDITION, FRETWELL, HEAD OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN OFFICE WAS CONTACTED.

2. IN ALL, THERE WERE FOUR MEETINGS INCLUDING TWO LUNCHEONS.

3. AG.ATTACHE HAD LUNCH WITH SMITH AND COVERED WIDE RANGE OF AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS INCLUDING PROPOSED SOYBEAN CAP.

4. ASST. AG.ATTACHE HAD MEETING WITH SMITH AND VICKERY TO INFORMALLY BRIEF THEM ON US LATEST POSITION ON PROPOSED SOYBEAN CAP PRIOR TO A LUNCH BETWEEN SMITH AND AMBASSADOR EBERLE AND A MEETING WHERE AMBASSADOR EBERLE WAS ADDRESSING A GROUP OF MAFF AND DTI OFFICIALS.

5. SECOND SECRETARY ECON GEP SECTION HAD LUNCHEON WITH FRETWELL FROM FOREIGN OFFICE IN WHICH OUR SERIOUS CONCERN OVER PROPOSED SOYBEAN CAP WAS EXPRESSED.

6. AG.ATTACHE, ASST. AG.ATTACHE AND SECOND SECRETARY ECON GEP SECTION HAD MEETING WITH MAFF OFFICIALS LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 1.

7. BRITISH REACTIONS TO US CONCERN WAS ENCOURAGING. MAIN POINTS WERE AS FOLLOWS: US SHOULD EMPHASIZE THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE SITUATION (I.E. IMPROVED SUPPLIES AND CARRYOVER STOCKS) AND DE-EMPHASIZE NEGATIVE (RETALIATION, EXERCISE GATT RIGHTS, ETC.). UK AGAINST SOYBEAN CAP WITH VARIABLE LEVIES; FRENCH SEEM TO BE COMING AROUND TO THE POSITION THAT A PRODUCER SUBSIDY MIGHT BE A BETTER APPROACH TO SOLVING AGRICULTURE PROBLEMS (NOT ONLY SOYBEAN BUT ALSO GRAINS, ETC.) THAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LONDON 11544 051722Z

CAP WITH VARIABLE LEVIES; IF ANY NEW PRODUCTS WERE BROUGHT UNDER CAP, THE UK WOULD FIGHT FOR MORE RATIONAL AND LESS COSTLY BASIS THAN PRESENT SYSTEM; LITTLE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE WITHIN THE EC TOWARDS A DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR A SOYBEAN CAP, AT THIS TIME THEY ARE STILL ARGUING ABOUT STATISTICS.

ANNENBERG

DECONTROL LO/5/74

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